

Tennessee Department of Transportation

The Civil Rights Division is celebrating Black History Month by spotlighting employees whose exemplary work fosters the mission of the department.



Employee Spotlight: Chasity Bell

Transportation Manager 1
HQ Local Program Development Office

She loves being Logan's mom, hanging around family and friends, sports (ROLL TIDE), traveling especially to the beach, playing softball, and working out.

Diversity quote, "Diversity is not about how we differ. Diversity is about embracing one another's uniqueness." Ola Joseph

Joined TDOT Family August 2010

Tell us about a moment in Black History that influenced or shaped your career and life.

There are many moments in Black History that have influenced my life. One that I hold special and dear to me is in 2000 when my mother became the first Black woman to be the recipient for the Woman of the Year Award for the City of Enterprise. This is an award given to someone who has influenced their communities through change, and has made a difference in the city for the better. This truly influenced me because it showed me that we all can make a difference in our communities, on our jobs, and in our lives, if we just have the heart to serve others regardless of their race, religion, or gender. We make it better by working together! My mom is a Superhero and to know that her winning this award opened the door for other Black women to become recipients of the Enterprise Woman of the Year Award. My mom's leadership, spirit, and hard work has truly shaped me into the woman I am today.

Which of the TDOT Values (Stewardship, Integrity, Safety, Consistency, Development, Innovation, Collaboration & Family) resonates with you and give an example.

If I had to pick, I would say Family. Family has always been important to me. I am a firm believer that family doesn't always mean blood related. My office is a close group and I consider us to be a family. It makes me smile to know that I am working with a group of individuals who are administering projects that help ensure the safety of families all across the State of Tennessee.

Why is celebrating Black History Month important?

Black History is achieved every day. Black History Month is important because it is an opportunity to understand our rich culture, and to celebrate and spotlight Black achievements. It's also a time to understand that our history goes beyond the stories of racism and slavery, but is filled with tenacity, resiliency, and perseverance. Black History Month is important because it displays how our history has been so impactful.

